

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 27-35 have been rewritten. The original application contains two of claim 27. The first claim 27 has been rewritten as claim 26. Applicants assert that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

5 It is not believed that any fees are necessary at this time. However, in the event fees are required, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to take any necessary fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, from deposit account 50-0913.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

10 Applicants note with appreciation the Office's indication that claims 17, 18, 33, and 34 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

II. Claim Objections

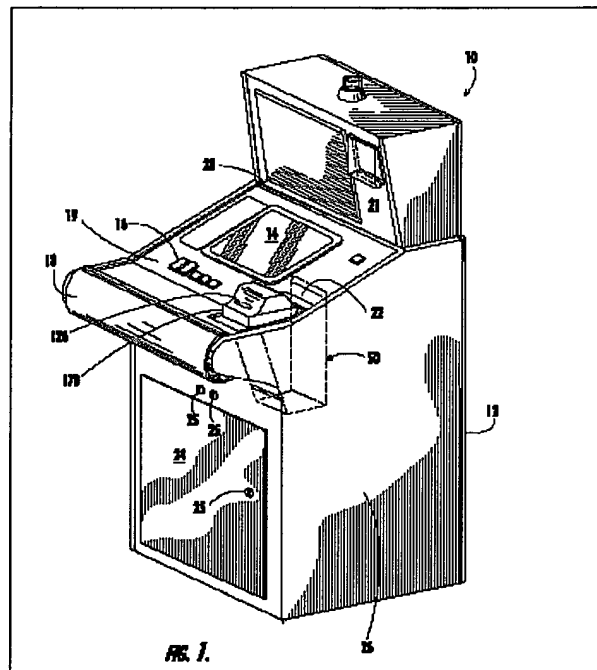
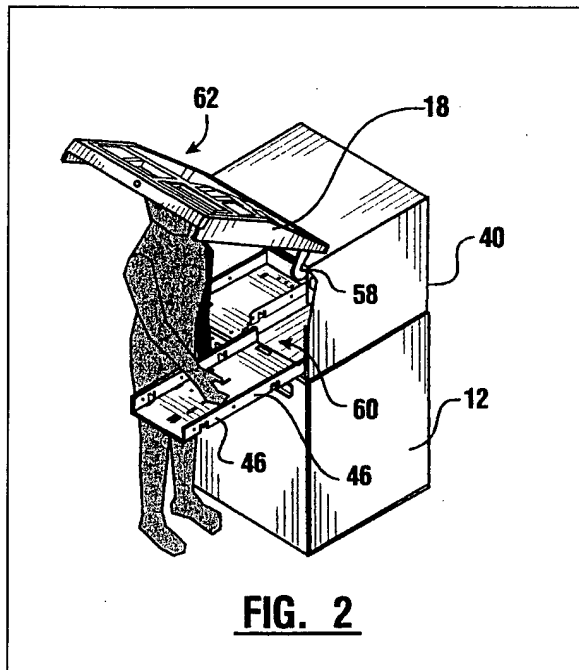
 The Office objected to claims 9 and 18 as having elements that lacked antecedent basis. Claims 9 and 18 have been rewritten to provide proper antecedent basis. Claims 26 and 27 were
15 objected to for grammatical/typographical errors. Claims 26 and 27 have been rewritten in accordance with the Office's suggestions. Claim 19 was objected to as having an awkward phrase in the preamble. Applicants note that claim 19 has been rewritten and the objectionable phrase no longer appears in the preamble. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw its objection to claims 9, 18, 19, 26, and 27.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-18 and 26-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the Applicants' invention. In particular, the Office alleged that it was unclear whether the "device" was part of
5 the claimed invention. Without conceding the Office's assertions, the Applicants note that independent claims 1 and 26 have been rewritten, including the preamble. Applicants believe claims 1-18 and 26-34 clearly define their invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 1-18 and 26-34.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10-13, 19-23, 25, 26, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,483,047 to Ramachandran. The Office has



alleged that Ramachandran teaches a device with a top surface 18 that is positioned at an acute angle relative to a floor. Figure 2 of Ramachandran (reproduced here next to an embodiment of Applicants' invention for the Office's convenience) appears to show an automated teller machine (ATM) with fascia panel 18 lifted for servicing by a technician. *See* col. 5, lns. 44-61.

5 By contrast, Applicants' invention is directed to a novel device having a slant top and a printer system. A key distinction is that the top of Applicant's device is slanted when top surface of the device is in an *operational* position, as opposed to a service position, as apparently shown in figure 2 of Ramachandran. The difference is quite important because the printer in Ramachandran is configured to operate with a machine with a vertical, rather than slanted, face.

10 Applicants' designed their printer system to be used with devices that operate with a slanted surface that is more ergonomic for users of the devices. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 19 and 26 to specify that the surface of the device in which the printer is mounted is slanted when the surface is in an operational (as opposed to a service) position. Applicants respectfully assert that this language clearly distinguishes Applicants' invention over

15 Ramachandran.

 In addition, there are additional reasons why certain claims are patentable over Ramachandran. For example, claim 19 recited that "media from the media holder travels in a substantially vertical direction from holder to the printer. As shown in figure 20 of Ramachandran, it appears that media travels in a horizontal direction in the device apparently

20 suggested by Ramachandran. Therefore, it does not appear that Ramachandran contains all of the limitations of claim 19.

 Claim 26 recites that the printer is "vertically mountable in a secure compartment of the device." Claim 26 also recites a media holder "vertically attached to the support frame." As shown in figures 2 and 20 of Ramachandran, the printer and media holder appear to be

horizontally mounted. Therefore, Ramachandran does not meet the limitations of Applicants' claims.

Because every independent claim contains elements not disclosed by Ramachandran, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 6,
5 8, 10-13, 19-23, 25, 26, and 28.

V. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 14-16, 24, 27, and 30-32 were rejected as allegedly being obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ramachandran in view of U.S. Patent 5,442,567 to Small (hereinafter,
10 "Small"), U.S. Patent 5,593,149 to Kimura (hereinafter, "Kimura"), or U.S. Patent 5,593,149 to Bemis (hereinafter, "Bemis"). Applicants note that all of these rejections are based, in part, on the Office's characterization of Ramachandran discussed above. Given the above discussion of Ramachandran and Applicants' invention, as well as the amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully assert that the asserted combinations of references do not teach or suggest all
15 elements of Applicants' claims. Applicants also make the following comments regarding specific asserted combinations of references.

The Office stated that it would have been obvious to combine Small and Ramachandran. However, as the Office is aware, the Office must point to some motivation or suggestion *in the references* for combining the references. *See* MPEP §2143.01. Applicants are unaware of any
20 suggestion in Ramachandran or Small to change the device of Ramachandran to a gaming device. In fact, it does not appear that Small is even directed to a gaming device. Rather, it appears that Small is directed to a kiosk for vending greeting cards (although gifts allegedly may be purchased along with the card, including gifts of lottery tickets and the like). Furthermore,

neither Small nor Ramachandran teaches replacing a coin box with a printer. Therefore, neither reference nor their combination teaches this element of Applicants' claim. Applicants' are concerned that the Office is employing hindsight reconstruction in making the asserted combination. If the Office maintains this ground of rejections, Applicants respectfully request the Office to point to some teaching of Small or Ramachandran that suggests replacing a coin box with a printer and provide a motivation in the references that suggests their combination.

Regarding the combination of Ramachandran with Kimura, Applicants are unsure of what portions of Kimura are being used in the rejection. The Office referred to a roller 7 and glide rail 6, however Applicants cannot find these in Kimura. If the Office maintains the rejection over Kimura, Applicants respectfully request the Office to specify which portions of Kimura are being used in the rejection of claims 7, 9, 27, 29, and 30.

Regarding the combination of Ramachandran and Bemis, it appears that Bemis may suggest using a spring loaded pin to maintain part of a printer system in an operating position, the pin being releasable should it be desired to move the portion of the printer system into a "load" position. *See* col. 3, lns. 33-61. It does not appear that Bemis suggests using a spring biased latch pin for locking a printer mechanism to a support frame. In addition, it appears that the devices of Ramachandran and Bemis are quite different, and it does not appear that one of skill in the art would consider substituting parts of the printer mechanism of Ramachandran with pieces of the Bemis device. Applicants respectfully assert that only Applicants have taught using a spring based latch to attach the printer assembly to the support frame.

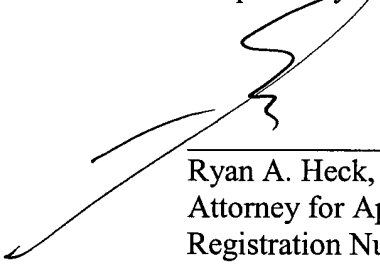
Because all elements of Applicants claims are not taught or suggested by Ramachandran, Small, Kimura, or Bemis, alone or in combination, Applicants request the Office to withdraw the §103(a) rejections of claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 14-16, 24, 27, and 30-32.

CONCLUSION

For all of the above reasons, the Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application or this Amendment A, the Examiner is encouraged to call the Applicants' attorney, Ryan Heck, at (775) 826-6160.

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Respectfully submitted,



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